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Atty. Dkt. No. 017447-0170

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Koichi WATANABE et al.

Title: SPUTTERING TARGET

Appl. No.: 09/720,730

Filing Date: 12/29/2000

Examiner: S. Ip

Art Unit: 1742

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

- ☐ Small Entity status under 37 C.F.R. § 1.9 and § 1.27 has been established by a Small Entity statement previously submitted.
- ☐ Small Entity statement is enclosed.
- ☒ The fee required for additional claims is calculated below:

	Claims as Amended		Previously Paid For		Extra Claims Present		Rate		Additional Claims Fee
Total Claims:	22	—	23	=	0	x	\$18.00	=	\$0.00
Independents:	5	—	3	=	2	x	\$84.00	=	\$168.00
First presentation of any Multiple Dependent Claims:						+	\$280.00	=	\$0.00
CLAIMS FEE TOTAL:									\$168.00

- ☐ Applicant hereby petitions for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for the total number of months checked below:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Extension for response filed within the first month:	\$110.00	\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Extension for response filed within the second month:	\$410.00	\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Extension for response filed within the third month:	\$930.00	\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Extension for response filed within the fourth month:	\$1,450.00	\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Extension for response filed within the fifth month:	\$1,970.00	\$0.00
	EXTENSION FEE TOTAL:		\$0.00
	CLAIMS AND EXTENSION FEE TOTAL:		\$168.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Small Entity Fees Apply (subtract ½ of above):		\$0.00
	TOTAL FEE:		\$168.00

- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0741 in the amount of \$168.00. A duplicate copy of this transmittal is enclosed.
- ☒ A check in the amount of \$168.00 is enclosed.
- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Please direct all correspondence to the undersigned attorney or agent at the address indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date January 23, 2002

FOLEY & LARDNER  
 Washington Harbour  
 3000 K Street, N.W., Suite 500  
 Washington, D.C. 20007-5143  
 Telephone: (202) 672-5414  
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By Thomas G. Bilodeau

Thomas G. Bilodeau  
 Attorney for Applicant  
 Registration No. 43,438



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**AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER**

**37 CFR 1.116**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 23, 2002, in the above-identified application, Applicants respectfully request that the following amendments be entered into the application:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claim 13 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Kindly replace the corresponding claims with the amended claims that follow:

1. (Thrice Amended) A high purity Nb sputtering target consisting essentially of Nb containing an amount of Ta impurity dispersed therein, the amount of Ta in the target being 3000 ppm or less, wherein a dispersion of the Ta content in the target is within 30%, the dispersion of the Ta content being defined by the following equation, for measured content values in the target:

$$\text{dispersion (\%)} = \{(\text{maximum value} - \text{minimum value}) / (\text{maximum value} + \text{minimum value})\} \times 100.$$

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